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MEDIA RELEASE

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KOSOVO MAN SENTENCED FOR MERRIMACK BANK BURGLARY

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Kenneth W. Kaiser, and Merrimack Police Chief William M. Mulligan today announced that Bujar Idrizi, 31, of New York City, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Steven McAuliffe to 14 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release after Idrizi pleaded guilty to committing the November 6, 2003, attempted burglary of the Fleet Bank in Shaw's Plaza, Merrimack, New Hampshire. Idrizi was ordered to pay \$4,441.00 in restitution. The Department of Homeland Security will likely initiate deportation proceedings against Idrizi after he serves his prison sentence. Idrizi was born in Kosovo.

On November 3, 2003, Idrizi and Orle Mehovic, Shkumbim Idrizi a/k/a Nasser Halilovic, and Paljoka Bojovic were arrested by the Merrimack Police Department at the Shaw's Plaza in Merrimack, New Hampshire. The group was arrested after the police discovered that Bojovic and Idrizi had cut a four foot by four foot hole in the roof of the plaza directly over the Fleet Bank. Police found crowbars, cutting shears and a hand axe near the roof. The police also recovered walkie-talkies and other tools and equipment consistent with that used by burglars. The group was not successful in gaining entry to the bank before they were arrested by the police.

On July 1, 2004, Orle Mehovic was sentenced to 5 months imprisonment, 5 months of home detention and 3 years of supervised release. On September 2, 2004, Paljoka Bojovic received a sentence of 18 months. Shkumbim Idrizi is scheduled to be sentenced on November 23, 2004.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "The quick response and investigation by the Merrimack Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation led to the successful capture and prosecution of this professional burglary team. My office will work hard with local, state and federal law enforcement to remove the threat posed by such professional criminals."

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Merrimack Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Criminal Division Chief Don Feith.